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Applicant: SONY CORPORATION 7-35 Kitashinagawa 6-chome Shinagawa-ku Tokyo 141(JP)

Inventor: FUJISHITA, Kaneaki

Sony Corporation,
7-35, Kitashinagawa 6-chome
Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141(JP)
Inventor: SAKURAI, Osamu
Sony Corporation,
7-35, Kitashinagawa 6-chome
Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141(JP)
Inventor: NAGAHARA, Junichi
Sony Corporation,
7-35, Kitashinagawa 6-chome
Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141(JP)

Representative: Ayers, Martyn Lewis Stanley J.A. KEMP & CO. 14 South Square Gray's Inn London WC1R 5LX (GB)

ACOUSTIC EQUIPMENT AND METHOD OF DISPLAYING OPERATING THEREOF.

② Acoustic equipment capable of processing video signals and a method of displaying operation thereof. An input change-over switch (1) is provided to switch audio signals from a tuner unit (2) and external devices connected to input terminals (3). The signals from the input change-over switch (1) are fed to a DSP unit (4) for processing the sound field, and the processed signals are taken out from an output terminal (6) through a muting switch (5). An input change-over switch (7) is provided to switch video signals from devices connected to input terminals

(8), and signals from the input change-over switch (7) are fed to a graphic controller (GDC) (9) that forms video signals to be displayed on the screen. The signals formed by the GDC (9) and the original signals are selected by a switch (10), and are taken out through the output terminal (11). The GDC (9) forms an image simulating the operation panel. When a key switch (13) is operated, the display content is changed at a position that corresponds to a key operated in the image which simulates the operation panel.

F/G. 1 Display Unit LED)~15 <u>13</u> ANT P4 P2 - 12 SDT SCK SCE CPU Tuner Unit P3 ROM RAM 22 23 ,4 DAT CLK LAT 5 C Do-DAT o-VIDEO 1 O-VIDEO 2 O-VIDEO 3 O-TAPE 2 O-SON Sound SON Field Processing 6 DSP Unit 10 <u>3</u> **00**₹8 ÞΒ VIDEO10-VIDEO20-VIDEO30-0 Graphic Controller 8

Technical Field:

The present invention relates to an audio equipment capable of processing video signals and a method of displaying operation of the acoustic equipment.

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Background Art:

It has been practiced to supply audio signals reproduced from a VTR to an audio equipment to improve reproduced acoustic sounds. It is also customary to supply, simultaneously with the audio signals, video signals from the VTR to the audio equipment, from which the video signals are supplied to a video signal receiver or another VTR. When supplying video signals to another VTR for dubbing purpose or the like, the video signals may be amplified or otherwise processed in the audio equipment in a manner suitable for dubbing the video signals.

Recent years have seen various many modes of signal processing in audio equipment. It is difficult to display necessary modes of signal processing sufficiently on a small-size display disposed on a control panel of audio equipment, for example.

The present invention has been made in view of the above problems.

Disclosure of the Invention:

According to a first invention, there is provided an audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising means for detecting an operated state of a control panel, and means for producing a video signal to display an image simulating the control panel on the video signal receiver, the arrangement being such that when the control panel is operated, a video signal is produced in which the display at a position corresponding to a portion of the displayed image which is detected as being operated on the control panel is varied.

According to a second invention, there is provided a method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of detecting an operated state of a control panel of the audio equipment, and varying an image of an operated portion of an image simulating the control panel.

According to a third invention, there is provided an audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising means for selecting and outputting signals from input terminals, and means for storing the names of devices connected to the input terminals and producing a video signal

to display a list of the names of the devices, the arrangement being such that when one of the signals from the input terminals is selected, a video signal is produced in which the display at a position corresponding to the selected input terminal is varied on the displayed list.

According to a fourth invention, there is provided a method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of producing an image to display the names of devices connected to input terminals, detecting a selected one of the signals from the input terminals, and varying an image of a portion corresponding to the selected input terminal on the list.

According to a fifth invention, there is provided a broadcast receiving apparatus for receiving broadcast signals and processing a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising means for storing the frequencies, set names, and sound field setting information of broadcast signals which are selectively receivable, and means for producing a video signal to display a list of the stored frequencies, set names, and sound field setting information on the video signal receiver, the arrangement being such that a video signal is produced in which the display at a position corresponding to a selected broadcast signal is varied on the displayed list.

According to a sixth invention, there is provided a method of displaying operation of a broadcast receiving apparatus, comprising the steps of producing an image to display a list of the frequencies and/or set names and sound field setting information of broadcast signals which are selectively receivable, detecting a selected broadcast signal, and varying an image of a portion corresponding to the selected broadcast signal on the list

According to a seventh invention, there is provided an audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising means for processing an input signal into desired characteristics and outputting the processed input signal, means for storing a plurality of settings of processed characteristics, and means for producing a video signal to display a list of the plurality of settings on the video signal receiver, the arrangement being such that when one of the settings of processed characteristics is selected, a video signal is produced in which the display at a position of the setting of a selected one of the processed characteristics is varied on the list.

According to an eighth first invention, there is provided a method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of producing an image signal to display a list of a plurality of settings of processed characteristics, detecting the

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setting of a selected one of the processed characteristics, and varying an image of a portion corresponding the setting of the selected one of the processed characteristics on the list.

According to a ninth invention, there is provided an audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising means for processing an input signal into desired sound field characteristics and outputting the processed input signal, means for setting a parameter of processing of the sound field characteristics, and means for producing a video signal to display the set parameter on the video signal receiver, the arrangement being such that when the parameter is set for the shape of a sound field, an image indicative of a standard shape of sound field is displayed on the video signal receiver, and a video signal is produced in which the image is enlarged or contracted as the parameter is varied.

According to a tenth invention, there is provided a method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of producing an image to display an image indicative of the shape of a standard sound field, detecting setting of a parameter of the shape of a sound field, and enlarging or contracting the image as the parameter is varied.

According to an eleventh invention, there is provided an audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising means for processing an input signal into desired sound field characteristics and outputting the processed input signal, means for setting a parameter of processing of the sound field characteristics, and means for producing a video signal to display the set parameter on the video signal receiver, the arrangement being such that when the parameter is set for the material of a wall surface around a sound field, an image indicating the shape of the sound field is displayed on the video signal receiver, and a video signal is produced in which the color of a portion corresponding to the wall surface of the image is varied as the parameter is varied.

According to a twelfth invention, there is provided a method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of producing an image to display an image indicative of a sound field, detecting setting of a parameter of the material of a wall surface around the sound field, and varying the color of a portion corresponding to the wall surface of the image as the parameter is varied.

Brief Description of the Drawings:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of an audio equipment according to the present invention:

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view of a control panel of the audio equipment;

FIGS. 3A and 3B are views illustrative of an example of operation display process;

FIG. 4 is a flowchart of the operation display process;

FIGS. 5A and 5B are views illustrative of another example of operation display process;

FIG. 6 is a flowchart of the operation display process;

FIGS. 7A and 7B are views illustrative of still another example of operation display process; FIGS. 8A and 8B are views illustrative of yet another example of operation display process; FIG. 9 is a flowchart of the operation display process;

FIGS. 10A and 10B are views illustrative of a further example of operation display process; FIGS. 11A and 11B are views illustrative of a still further example of operation display process; FIG. 12 is a flowchart of the apparation display.

FIG. 12 is a flowchart of the operation display process;

FIGS. 13A and 13B are views illustrative of another example of operation display process; FIGS. 14A and 14B are views illustrative of still another example of operation display process; FIGS. 15A and 15B are diagrams showing a parameter of the size of a sound field; FIG. 16 is a flowchart illustrative of the parameter of the size of a sound field;

FIGS. 17A and 17B are views illustrative of yet another example of operation display process; FIGS. 18A and 18B are views illustrative of a further example of operation display process; FIG. 19 is a diagram showing mixture ratios of colors that are displayed;

FIGS. 20A and 20B are diagrams showing a parameter of a wall surface material;

FIG. 21 is a flowchart illustrative of the parameter of a wall surface material;

FIGS. 22A and 22B are views illustrative of a still further example of operation display process; and

FIGS. 23A and 23B are views illustrative of a yet further example of operation display process.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention:

As shown in FIG. 1, an audio equipment according to the present invention has an audio signal input selector switch 1 that is supplied with a received AM/FM signal from a tuner unit 2, a reproduced signal from a CD player (not shown) connected to an input terminal 3, a reproduced

signal from a DAT player (now shown) connected to an input terminal 3, audio signals from three video equipments VIDEO1, VIDEO2, VIDEO3 (not shown) connected to respective input terminals 3, and an audio signal monitored and reproduced from a recording equipment TAPE2 (not shown) connected to an input terminal 3 in a dubbing process, each of the signals being supplied in a stereophonic mode. One of the signals from the input selector switch 1 is supplied to a sound field processing DSP unit 4, which sends the processed signal through a muting switch 5 to an output terminal 6.

The audio equipment also has a video signal input selector switch 7 that is supplied with video signals reproduced from the respective three video equipments VIDEO1, VIDEO2, VIDEO3. The video signal input selector switch 7 supplies one of the video signals to a graphic controller (GDC) 9 which generates a video signal for a displayed image. One of the signal generated by the GDC 9 and the original signal is selected by a switch 10 and supplied to an output terminal 11.

The audio equipment further includes a system control microcomputer 12. The microcomputer 12 has a CPU 21, a ROM 22, and a RAM 23m, and effects control operation according to a program written in the ROM 22. Signals from key switches 13 of a control panel are supplied to the microcomputer 12 to control the input selector switches 1, 7, the tuner unit 2, the DSP unit 4, the GDC 9, and the switches 5, 10. Statuses of the controlled components are displayed on a display unit 14 and an LED 15 on the control panel.

The control panel of the audio equipment is arranged as shown in FIG. 2. In FIG. 2, the control panel has at least a power supply switch 51, an LED 52 for indicating a display on a video signal receiver, a display unit 14, and a dial 53 for volume control. The control panel also has an operation key 31 corresponding to a key switch 13 for muting an audio signal, and an LED 15a for indicating an operation of the operation key 31.

The control panel also includes a group of operation keys 32 corresponding to key switches 13 for controlling functions when the input selector switches 1, 7 are operated. The operation keys 32 include an operation key 32b corresponding to a key switch 13 for selecting an audio signal that is monitored and reproduced from a recording equipment TAPE2 (not shown) through the input selector switch 1 during dubbing operation, and an LED 15b for indicating an operation of the operation key 32b.

The graphic controller (GDC) 9 generates video signals for displayed images as shown in FIGS. 3A and 3B. In FIG. 3A, an image which simulates the control panel is displayed on a left-hand side of the

image displayed on the display unit 14. The simulating image includes images of the power supply switch 51, the display 14, the dial 53, etc.

When one of the operation keys 31, 32 is operated, the display at the position of the operated key is altered as shown in FIG. 3B. In the example shown in FIG. 3, a bright display is produced in a position corresponding to the operation key 31 which mutes the audio signal, and a display in the shape of a bright frame is produced in a position corresponding to the operation key 32b which selects the audio signal monitored and reproduced from the recording equipment TAPE2 during dubbing operation.

Displays similar to those in the displayed image and indicating the function of the operated key are produced at a lower right position in the displayed image. The name of the device which is selected by the input selector switches 1, 7 is displayed in a position corresponding to the image of the display unit 14 in the image simulating the control panel. Functions displayed in the display unit 14, for example, are displayed at enlarged scale in a upper right position in the displayed image.

The audio equipment thus displays highly clearly data of the operated key in the image which simulates the control panel.

FIG. 4 shows a flowchart of a key-in process for the above operation display process. When the key-in process is started, a step [1] determines whether the operation key 31 is operated or not, and then a step [2] determines whether the operation keys 32 are operated or not. If NO in the steps [1], [2], then control goes to a next process. If YES in the step [1], then the switch 5 is turned off in a step [3] and the LED 15 is energized in a step [4]. The switch 10 is shifted to the GDC 9 in a step [5], and display data are supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [6], after which control goes to the next process.

The above displays are thus carried out in the manner described above.

The control panel shown in FIG. 2 has a group of operation keys 33 corresponding to key switches 13 for registering the names of input devices. The operation keys 33 include four upward, downward, leftward, and rightward operation keys 33a ~ 33d, a start operation key 33e, and a memory operation key 33f, for example.

The graphic controller (GDC) of the audio equipment generates video signals for displayed images as shown in FIGS. 5A and 5B. In FIG. 5A, the original names of the respective input terminals 3 are displayed in a left-hand side of the image, and the names of devices connected to the respective input terminals 3 are displayed in a central portion of the image. When one of the input de-

vices is selected by the operation key 32, the display "DAT" is surrounded by a frame as shown, and the color of the displayed name of the device is altered.

When the start operation key 33e is operated with the input device thus selected, an image for registering the name of the input device is displayed as shown in FIG. 3B. When the leftward and rightward operation keys 33a, 33b, for example, are operated, the position of characters for names to be registered is changed. The upward and downward operation keys 33c, 33d can be operated in any desired position. When the upward and downward operation keys 33c, 33d are operated in a desired position, the character displayed in that position is changed.

The available characters include alphabetical letters in upper and lower cases, numerals, simple symbols, etc., and can successively be displayed when the operation keys 33c, 33d are operated. The name of a desired device can be produced by operating the operation keys 33a ~ 33d successively. When the name of a device is completed, the memory operation key 33f is operated to register the name of the device.

If an editing process (EDIT) is carried out, then the name of the input device is displayed in a lower portion of the displayed image. The display is produced by copying the name which has been registered. If the audio equipment supplies the audio and video signals to another room (DRLC), then the name of the device which produces the signal that is supplied to the other room is displayed. This display is also produced by copying the name which has been registered.

The audio equipment thus displays highly clearly a selected signal with a list of names of devices connected to the input terminals 3.

FIG. 6 shows a flowchart of a key-in process for the above operation display process. When the key-in process is started, a step [1] determines whether the operation keys 32 are operated or not, and then a step [2] determines whether the operation keys 33 are operated or not. If NO in the steps [1], [2], then control goes to a next process. If YES in the step [1], then the switch 7 is shifted in a step [3], and then data is displayed on the display unit 14 in a step [4]. The switch 10 is shifted to the GDC 9 in a step [5], and display data is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [6]. A display image of original names of the input terminals 3 is generated in a step [7], and a display image of names of devices connected to the input terminals 8 is generated in a step [8]. A step [9] then determines whether all names are displayed or not. If not displayed yet, then control returns to the step [7]. If all names are displayed, then the display of the name of the selected device is altered in a step [10], after which

control goes to the next process.

If YES in the step [2], then a step [12] determines whether data from the GDC 9 is displayed or not. If not displayed, then the steps [3] ~ [9] are executed in a step [13]. If displayed, then the display of the name of the selected device is altered in a step [14]. A display image of the name of the device being inputted is generated in a step [15], which is followed by a step [16] that determines whether the display is flickering or not. If not flickering, then control proceeds to the next process. If flickering, then a display image in which the characters being inputted are turned off is generated in a step [17], from which control goes to the next process.

The above displays are thus carried out in the manner described above.

The control panel shown in FIG. 2 also has operation keys 34 corresponding to key switches 13 for selecting a broadcast signal (selective reception). The operation keys 34 include operation keys 34a ~ 34j for selecting numerals ranging from 1 to 0, an operation key 34k for shifting letters A, B, C, an operation key 341 for directly setting a selected station, and operation keys 34m, 34n for automatically selecting a station or for selecting a station based on an index as described later on.

The operation keys 33 on the control panel also correspond to key switches 13 for registering desired set names of broadcast signals. The operation keys 33 include four upward, downward, leftward, and rightward operation keys 33a ~ 33d, a start operation key 33e, and a memory operation key 33f, for example. The control panel also includes an operation key 35 for setting sound fields as described later on.

The operation keys 34a ~ 34j, 34k are used to select broadcast signals in a total of 30 channels. When the numerical value of a frequency is inputted with the operation keys 34a ~ 34j after the operation key 341 has been operated, a broadcast signal of that frequency is directly selected.

When the operation key 34m is operated, the frequencies are swept in a direction (+ or - determined by the operation key 34n) to automatically select a broadcast signal. With the broadcast signal directly or automatically selected, the operation keys 34a ~ 34j, 34k, and the memory operation key 33f are operated to set the frequency of the selected broadcast signal to a selected channel. The set information is stored in the RAM 23.

The graphic controller (GDC) 9 of the audio equipment generates video signals of display images as shown in FIGS. 7A and 7B. In FIG. 7A, the image is divided into left and right images, and the numbers of a total of 30 channels composed of letters A, B, C and numerals 1 ~ 0 are displayed in left-hand sides of each of the left and right images.

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The bands FM/AM and the frequencies of broadcast signals that can selectively be received are displayed centrally in the left and right images, and information indicative of set sound fields is displayed in right-hand sides of each of the left and right images. When a channel is selected with the operation keys 34, the selected channel which is displayed is surrounded by a frame and its displayed color is altered as indicated at the channel A3.

With the channel selected, when the operation key 35 for setting a sound field is operated, an image for setting a sound field is displayed as shown in FIG. 7B. A desired sound field is established when the operation keys 34a ~ 34j, for example, are operated. There are available typical 10 sound fields that have been preset in the DSP unit 4 and a maximum of 10 sound fields that can be set by the user. When the memory operation key 33f is operated, one of the available sound fields can be set in the selected channel.

With the channel selected, when the start operation key 33e is operated, an image for registering a set name is displayed as shown in FIG. 8A. When the leftward and rightward operation keys 33a, 33b, for example, are operated, the position of characters for names to be registered is changed. When the upward and downward operation keys 33c. 33d are operated in any desired position, the character displayed in that position is changed. The available characters include alphabetical letters in upper and lower cases, numerals, simple symbols, etc., and can successively be displayed when the operation keys 33c, 33d are operated. A desired set name can be produced by operating the operation keys 33a ~ 33d successively. When the set name is completed, the memory operation key 33f is operated to register the set name.

The graphic controller (GDC) 9 switches between the above image and a display image shown in FIG. 8B. The image shown in FIG. 8B is divided into left and right images, and the numbers of a total of 30 channels composed of letters A, B, C and numerals 1 ~ 0 are displayed in left-hand sides of each of the left and right images. The bands FM/AM and the set names of broadcast signals that can selectively be received are displayed centrally in the left and right images, and information indicative of set sound fields is displayed in right-hand sides of each of the left and right images. When a channel is selected with the operation keys 34, the selected channel which is displayed is surrounded by a frame and its displayed color is altered as indicated at the channel A3. When broadcast signals are selected based on indexes, only those broadcast signals having the same set name are successively selected.

The audio equipment thus clearly displays the states of selectively received broadcast signals on a list of the frequencies of broadcast signals, desired set names, and sound field setting information

FIG. 9 shows a flowchart of a key-in process for the above operation display process. When the key-in process is started, a step [1] determines whether the operation keys 34 are operated or not. If NO, then control proceeds to a next process. If YES, data stored in the RAM 23 is read in a step [2], and a frequency is set in the tuner unit 2 in a step [3]. A step [4] sets a sound field in the DSP unit 4, and a step [5] displays data on the display unit 14.

A step [6] determines whether data has already been displayed or not. If YES, control goes to the next process. If NO, the switch 10 is shifted to the GDC 9 in a step [7], and then band display data is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [8]. A step [9] determines whether there is a setting name or not. If there is no setting name (NO), then display data for a frequency is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [10]. If there is a setting name (YES), then display data for the setting name is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [11].

Display data for setting a sound field is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [12]. A step [13] then determines whether 30 stations have been displayed or not. If NO, then control returns to the step [8]. If YES, then a display image in which a channel being received is surrounded by a frame is generated. Thereafter, control goes to the next process.

The above display can therefore be carried out in the manner described above.

The control panel shown in FIG. 2 also has operation keys corresponding to key switches 13 for selecting settings for characteristic processing. The 10 operation keys 34a ~ 34j indicative of the numerals 1 ~ 0 double as these operation keys.

The operation keys 33 on the control panel also correspond to key switches 13 for the user to provide a desired sound field. The operation keys 33 include four upward, downward, leftward, and rightward operation keys 33a ~ 33d, a start operation key 33e, and a memory operation key 33f, for example.

The control panel also includes operation keys 36 corresponding to key switches 13 for the user to set a desired equalizer curve. The operation keys 36 include an operation key 36a for turning on and off an equalizer, an operation key 36b for displaying an equalizer curve, an operation key 36c for controlling an equalizer band, and an operation key 36d for controlling the level of the middle range of the equalizer curve.

The control panel also includes an operation key 37 corresponding to a key switch 13 for the user to provide a desired dynamic range. The operation key 37 serves to turn on and off a dynamic range correcting mode, for example.

The graphic controller (GDC) 9 of the audio equipment generates video signals of display images as shown in FIGS. 10A and 10B. In FIG. 10A, preset characteristics stored in the ROM 22 are displayed as the names of basic sound fields are displayed in a left-hand side of the image, and the on and off states of a sound field (surround) mode, an equalizer mode, and a dynamic range correcting mode are displayed in a right-hand side of the image. When the name of a desired sound field is selected with the operation keys 34a ~ 34j, the displayed name is surrounded by a frame as indicated at HALL 1, for example. Audio signals can thus be processed in one of the 10 basic sound fields.

If the user wishes to set desired characteristics, then the start operation key 33e is operated. When the start operation key 33e is operated, an image for setting characteristics is displayed as shown in FIG. 10B. When the operation keys 33a ~ 33d are operated, the characteristics of a sound field (surround) are variously changed.

To set a desired equalizer curve, the start operation key 33e is operated with the operation keys 36a on, and the display operation key 36b is operated. Now, an image for setting an equalizer is displayed as shown in FIG. 11A. When the operation key 36c for controlling the equalizer band is operated and the operation keys 33a ~ 33d are operated, the level of each frequency is controlled. As the level of each frequency is controlled, the curve of the image is varied. When required, the level of the middle range of the equalizer curve is controlled with the operation key 36d. The above control processes are effected in each of the bands until the entire equalizer curve (characteristics) is established.

To provide a desired dynamic range, the start operation key 33e is operated with the dynamic range correcting mode being on with the operation key 37. Now, an image for providing a dynamic range is displayed as shown in FIG. 10B. When the operation keys 33a, 33b are operated, the characteristic curve of a dynamic range is controlled to change from a compressor curve into an expander curve. As the characteristic curve of a dynamic range is controlled, the curve in the image is varied.

When the sound field (surround), the equalizer curve, and the dynamic range have achieved desired characteristics, the memory operation key 33f is operated, and the operation keys 34a ~ 34j are operated to store the set characteristics in ad-

dresses in the RAM 23 that have been designated by the operation keys 34a ~ 34j.

The audio equipment can thus clearly display selected states of signals on a list of a plurality of settings.

FIG. 12 shows a flowchart of a key-in process for the above operation display process. When the key-in process is started, a step [1] determines whether the operation keys 33 are operated or not and a step [2] determines whether the operation keys 34 are operated or not. If NO in the steps [1], [2], then control proceeds to a next process. If YES in the step [2], data stored in the RAM 23 is read in a step [3], and the read data is set in the DSP 4 in a step [4]. A step [5] displays the data on the display unit 14, and a step [6] shifts the switch 10 to the GDC 9.

Thereafter, a step [7] supplies display data of basic sound fields to the GDC 9. A step [8] determines whether a sound field (surround) correcting mode is on or not. If on, then display data "ON" is supplied to the GDC 9. If off, then display data "OFF" is supplied to the GDC 9. Thereafter, a step [8] determines whether a sound field (surround) correcting mode is on or not. If on, then display data "ON" is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [9]. If off, then display data "OFF" is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [10]. A step [11] determines whether an equalizer mode is on or not. If on, then display data "ON" is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [12]. If off, then display data "OFF" is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [13]. Thereafter, a step [14] determines whether a dynamic range correcting is on or not. If on, then display data "ON" is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [15]. If off, then display data "OFF" is supplied to the GDC 9 in a step [16].

A step [17] determines whether data of 10 sound field characteristics have been displayed or not. If NO, then control goes back to the step [7]. If YES, a step [18] generates a display image in which the display of a selected sound field is surrounded by a frame. Thereafter, control goes to the next process.

If YES in the step [1], then a step [19] determines data from the GDC 9 is displayed or not. If not displayed, then the steps [3] ~ [17] are executed in a step [20]. If displayed, the display of the selected sound field is altered in a step [21]. A step [22] generates a display image of the selected sound field, and a step [23] generates a display image of an on/off state of the sound field (surround) correcting mode for the selected sound field. A step [24] generates a display image of an on/off state of the equalizer mode for the selected sound field, and a step [25] generates a display image of an on/off state of the dynamic range correcting mode for the selected sound field.

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Thereafter, control goes to the next process.

The above display can therefore be carried out in the manner described above.

The control panel shown in FIG. 2 also has operation keys corresponding to key switches 13 for selecting settings for sound field (surround) characteristic processing. The 10 operation keys 34a ~ 34j indicative of the numerals 1 ~ 0 double as these operation keys.

The control panel also has operation keys corresponding to key switches 13 for the user to change to a desired sound field. The start operation key 33e and the four upward, downward, leftward, and rightward operation keys 33a ~ 33d double as these operation keys.

The graphic controller (GDC) 9 of the audio equipment generates video signals of display images as shown in FIGS. 13A and 13B. In FIG. 13A, preset characteristics stored in the ROM 22 are displayed as the names of basic sound fields are displayed in a left-hand side of the image, and the on and off states of a sound field (surround) mode, an equalizer mode, and a dynamic range correcting mode are displayed in a right-hand side of the image. When the name of a desired sound field is selected with the operation keys 34a ~ 34j, the displayed name is surrounded by a frame as indicated at HALL 1, for example. Audio signals can thus be processed in one of the 10 basic sound fields.

The start operation key 33e is operated to display an image for setting characteristics as shown in FIG. 10B. When the operation keys 33a ~ 33d, for example, are operated, the characteristics of a sound field (surround) are variously changed.

The characteristics of a sound field (surround) comprise parameters including the size of a room (the shape of a sound field), the material of a wall surface, the position of a seat, the level of a surround effect, the duration of a reverberation. Desired ones of these parameters are selected with the operation keys 33a, 33b. When the parameter indicative of the size of a room is selected, an image for setting the size of a room is displayed as shown in FIGS. 14A and 14B.

Then, the operation keys 33c, 33d are operated to modify the parameter indicative of the size of a room, thus varying the image as shown in FIG. 14A or 14B. In FIGS. 14A and 14B, thinner lines represent the size of a standard room (the shape of a sound field). As the operation keys 33c, 33d are operated, an image indicated by thicker lines is enlarged or contracted.

The parameter indicative of the size of a room corresponds to the time for which reflected sounds simulated as shown in FIG. 15A or 15B endures. Since the representations of FIGS. 15A and 15B are difficult to understand, the size of a room is

displayed as an image as shown in FIGS. 14A and 14B for an easier visual recognition of the room size.

The audio equipment thus clearly displays an image representing the shape of a standard sound field, which image can be enlarged or contracted as the parameter of the size of the sound field is modified.

FIG. 16 shows a flowchart of a key-in process for the above operation display process. When the key-in process is started, a step [1] determines whether the operation keys 33 are operated or not. If NO, control proceeds to a next process. If YES, delay time data stored in the RAM 23 is read and set in the DSP unit 4 in a step [2]. The data is then displayed on the display unit 14 in a step [3], and the switch 10 is shifted to the GDC 9 in a step [4].

In a step [5], the previous display data from the GDC 9 is erased. Display data (represented by thinner lines) of the shape of a standard sound field is supplied in a step [6]. Display data of the shape of a set sound field set is supplied in a step [7]. Then, numerical display data is supplied in a step [8], after which control goes to the next process.

The above display can therefore be carried out in the manner described above.

While the size of a room has been described above as the shape of a sound field, the present invention is also applicable to changing of the shape of a sound field such as a square or sectorial sound field, for example.

The control panel shown in FIG. 2 also has operation keys corresponding to key switches 13 for selecting settings for sound field (surround) characteristic processing. The 10 operation keys 34a ~ 34j indicative of the numerals 1 ~ 0 double as these operation keys.

The control panel also has operation keys corresponding to key switches 13 for the user to change to a desired sound field. The start operation key 33e and the four upward, downward, leftward, and rightward operation keys 33a ~ 33d double as these operation keys.

The graphic controller (GDC) 9 of the audio equipment generates video signals of display images as shown in FIGS. 17A and 17B. In FIG. 17A, preset characteristics stored in the ROM 22 are displayed as the names of basic sound fields are displayed in a left-hand side of the image, and the on and off states of a sound field (surround) mode, an equalizer mode, and a dynamic range correcting mode are displayed in a right-hand side of the image. When the name of a desired sound field is selected with the operation keys 34a ~ 34j, the displayed name is surrounded by a frame as indicated at HALL 1, for example. Audio signals can thus be processed in one of the 10 basic sound fields.

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The start operation key 33e is operated to display an image for setting characteristics as shown in FIG. 17B. When the operation keys 33a ~ 33d, for example, are operated, the characteristics of a sound field (surround) are variously changed.

The characteristics of a sound field (surround) comprise parameters including the size of a room (the shape of a sound field), the material of a wall surface, the position of a seat, the level of a surround effect, the duration of a reverberation. Desired ones of these parameters are selected with the operation keys 33a, 33b. When the parameter indicative of the size of a room is selected, an image for setting the material of a wall surface is displayed as shown in FIGS. 18A and 18B.

Then, the operation keys 33c, 33d are operated to modify the parameter indicative of the material of a wall surface, thus varying the image as shown in FIG. 18A or 18B. FIGS. 18A and 18B illustrate the shape of a sound field. AS the operation keys 33c, 33d are operated, the color of an image portion corresponding to the wall surface is varied. More specifically, the ratio of mixture of red (R), green (G), and blue (B) of the displayed color in the image portion is varied as indicated in the table of FIG. 19. According to the table of FIG. 19, the colors of materials in upper rows (softer materials) are indicated as warmer colors, and the colors of materials in lower rows (harder materials) are indicated as colder colors.

The parameter indicative of the material of a wall surface corresponds to a change in the frequency characteristic (filter) with respect to initial reflected sounds and reverberation as shown in FIGS. 20A and 20B. Since the representations of FIGS. 20A and 20B are difficult to understand, the material of a wall surface is displayed as a change in the color of an image portion corresponding to the wall surface as shown in FIGS. 18A and 18B for an easier visual recognition of the wall material.

The audio equipment thus clearly displays an image representing the shape of a standard sound field, with the color of an image portion which corresponds to a wall surface being varied as the parameter indicative of the material of the wall surface is varied.

FIG. 21 shows a flowchart of a key-in process for the above operation display process. When the key-in process is started, a step [1] determines whether the operation keys 33 are operated or not. If NO, control proceeds to a next process. If YES, filter coefficient data stored in the RAM 23 is read and set in the DSP unit 4 in a step [2]. The data is then displayed on the display unit 14 in a step [3], and the switch 10 is shifted to the GDC 9 in a step [41].

A step [5] supplies display data of the shape of a sound field to the GDC 9, and a step [6] supplies

color data (RGB) of the material of a wall surface of the set sound field to draw on an image portion corresponding to the wall surface. After numerical display data is supplied in a step [7], control goes to the next process.

The above display can therefore be carried out in the manner described above.

To set the parameter of the position of a seat, the position of the arrow shown in FIGS. 18A and 18B is moved forward, backward, leftward, or rightward. To set the parameter of the level of a surround effect, images representing original sound, initial reflection, and reverberation are displayed as shown in FIG. 22A, and the heights of the graphs indicating initial reflection and reverberation are varied. To set the parameter of the duration of reverberation, images representing original sound, initial reflection, and reverberation are displayed as shown in FIG. 22B, and the height of the graph indicating reverberation is varied. Therefore, these displays can clearly be produced.

FIGS. 23A and 23B show display images for setting sound levels. FIG. 23A illustrates a surround level, and FIG. 23B illustrates a center level, both through the number of thick lines. In this manner, the sound levels can clearly be displayed.

Description of reference numerals

- 1 input selector switch for audio signals
- 2 tuner unit
- 3 input terminals
- 4 sound field processing DSP unit
- 5 muting switch
- 6 output terminal
- 7 input selector switch for video signals
- 9 graphic controller for producing video signals of display image
- 10 switch
- 11 output terminal
 - 12 system control microcomputer
 - 13 key switches of control panel
 - 14 built-in display unit
 - 15 LED

Claims

 An audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for detecting an operated state of a control panel; and

means for producing a video signal to display an image simulating the control panel on the video signal receiver;

the arrangement being such that when the control panel is operated, a video signal is produced in which the display at a position

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corresponding to a portion of the displayed image which is detected as being operated on the control panel is varied.

- A method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of detecting an operated state of a control panel of the audio equipment, and varying an image of an operated portion of an image simulating the control panel.
- An audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for selecting and outputting signals from input terminals; and

means for storing the names of devices connected to said input terminals and producing a video signal to display a list of the names of the devices;

the arrangement being such that when one of the signals from the input terminals is selected, a video signal is produced in which the display at a position corresponding to the selected input terminal is varied on the displayed list

A method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of:

producing an image to display the names of devices connected to input terminals;

detecting a selected one of the signals from the input terminals; and

varying an image of a portion corresponding to the selected input terminal on said list.

5. A broadcast receiving apparatus for receiving broadcast signals and processing a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for storing the frequencies, set names, and sound field setting information of broadcast signals which are selectively receivable; and

means for producing a video signal to display a list of the stored frequencies, set names, and sound field setting information on the video signal receiver;

the arrangement being such that a video signal is produced in which the display at a position corresponding to a selected broadcast signal is varied on the displayed list.

A method of displaying operation of a broadcast receiving apparatus, comprising the steps of:

producing an image to display a list of the frequencies and/or set names and sound field

setting information of broadcast signals which are selectively receivable;

detecting a selected broadcast signal; and varying an image of a portion corresponding to the selected broadcast signal on the list.

7. An audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for processing an input signal into desired characteristics and outputting the processed input signal;

means for storing a plurality of settings of processed characteristics; and

means for producing a video signal to display a list of the plurality of settings on the video signal receiver;

the arrangement being such that when one of the settings of processed characteristics is selected, a video signal is produced in which the display at a position of the setting of a selected one of the processed characteristics is varied on the list.

8. A method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of:

producing an image signal to display a list of a plurality of settings of processed characteristics;

detecting the setting of a selected one of the processed characteristics; and

varying an image of a portion corresponding the setting of the selected one of the processed characteristics on the list.

 An audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for processing an input signal into desired sound field characteristics and outputting the processed input signal;

means for setting a parameter of processing of the sound field characteristics; and

means for producing a video signal to display the set parameter on the video signal receiver:

the arrangement being such that when the parameter is set for the shape of a sound field, an image indicative of a standard shape of sound field is displayed on the video signal receiver, and a video signal is produced in which the image is enlarged or contracted as the parameter is varied.

10. A method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of:

producing an image to display an image indicative of the shape of a standard sound

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field;

detecting setting of a parameter of the shape of a sound field; and

enlarging or contracting the image as the parameter is varied.

11. An audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for processing an input signal into desired sound field characteristics and outputting the processed input signal;

means for setting a parameter of processing of the sound field characteristics; and

means for producing a video signal to display the set parameter on the video signal receiver;

the arrangement being such that when the parameter is set for the material of a wall surface around a sound field, an image indicating the shape of the sound field is displayed on the video signal receiver, and a video signal is produced in which the color of a portion corresponding to the wall surface of the image is varied as the parameter is varied.

12. A method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of:

producing an image to display an image indicative of a sound field;

detecting setting of a parameter of the material of a wall surface around the sound field; and

varying the color of a portion corresponding to the wall surface of the image as the parameter is varied.

Amended Claims

- 1. (deleted)
- 2. (deleted)
- (after amended) An audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for selecting and outputting signals from an input terminal; and

means for storing the names of devices connected to said input terminals and producing a video signal to display a list of the names of the devices on said video signal receiver;

the arrangement being such that when one of the signals from the input terminals is selected, a video signal is produced in which the display at a position corresponding to the selected input terminal is varied on the displayed

list.

4. A method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of:

producing an image to display the names of devices connected to input terminals;

detecting a selected one of the signals from the input terminals; and

varying an image of a portion corresponding to the selected input terminal on said list.

5. A broadcast receiving apparatus for receiving broadcast signals and processing a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for storing the frequencies, set names, and sound field setting information of broadcast signals which are selectively receivable; and

means for producing a video signal to display a list of the stored frequencies, set names, and sound field setting information on the video signal receiver;

the arrangement being such that a video signal is produced in which the display at a position corresponding to a selected broadcast signal is varied on the displayed list.

6. A method of displaying operation of a broadcast receiving apparatus, comprising the steps of:

producing an image to display a list of the frequencies and/or set names and sound field setting information of broadcast signals which are selectively receivable;

detecting a selected broadcast signal; and varying an image of a portion corresponding to the selected broadcast signal on the list.

7. An audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for processing an input signal into desired characteristics and outputting the processed input signal;

means for storing a plurality of settings of processed characteristics; and

means for producing a video signal to display a list of the plurality of settings on the video signal receiver;

the arrangement being such that when one of the settings of processed characteristics is selected, a video signal is produced in which the display at a position of the setting of a selected one of the processed characteristics is varied on the list.

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8. A method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of:

producing an image signal to display a list of a plurality of settings of processed characteristics;

detecting the setting of a selected one of the processed characteristics; and

varying an image of a portion corresponding to the setting of the selected one of the processed characteristics on the list.

An audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for processing an input signal into desired sound field characteristics and outputting the processed input signal;

means of setting a parameter of processing of the sound field characteristics; and

means for producing a video signal to display the set parameter on the video signal receiver;

the arrangement being such that when the parameter is set for the shape of a sound field, an image indicative of a standard shape of sound field is displayed on the video signal receiver, and a video signal is produced in which the image is enlarged or contracted as the parameter is varied.

10. A method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of:

producing an image to display an image indicative of the shape of a standard sound field;

detecting setting of a parameter of the shape of a sound field; and

enlarging or contracting the image as the parameter is varied.

11. An audio equipment for processing an audio signal and a video signal for a video signal receiver connected thereto, comprising:

means for processing an input signal into desired sound field characteristics and outputting the processed input signal;

means for setting a parameter of processing of the sound field characteristics; and

means for producing a video signal to display the set parameter on the video signal receiver:

the arrangement being such that when the parameter is set for the material of a wall surface around a sound field, an image indicating the shape of the sound field is displayed on the video signal receiver, and a video signal is produced in which the color of a portion corresponding to the wall surface of the image

is varied as the parameter is varied.

12. A method of displaying operation of an audio equipment, comprising the steps of:

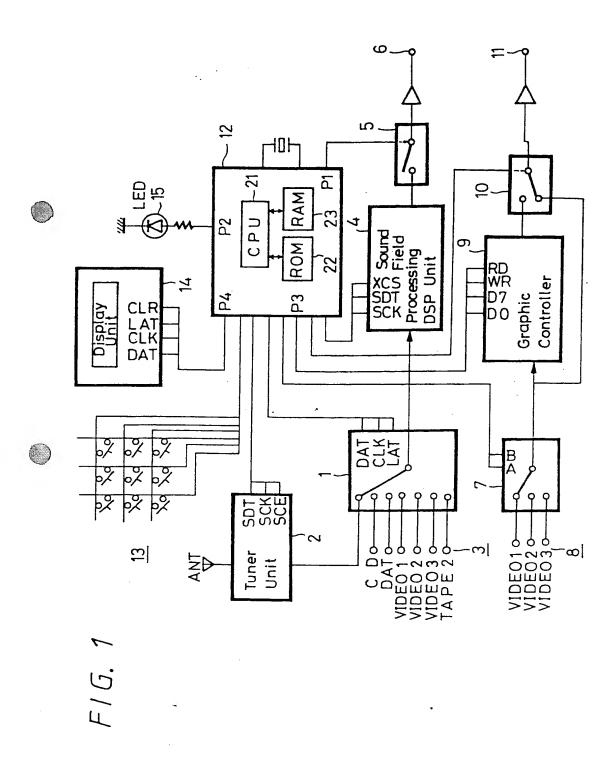
producing an image to display an image indicative of a sound field;

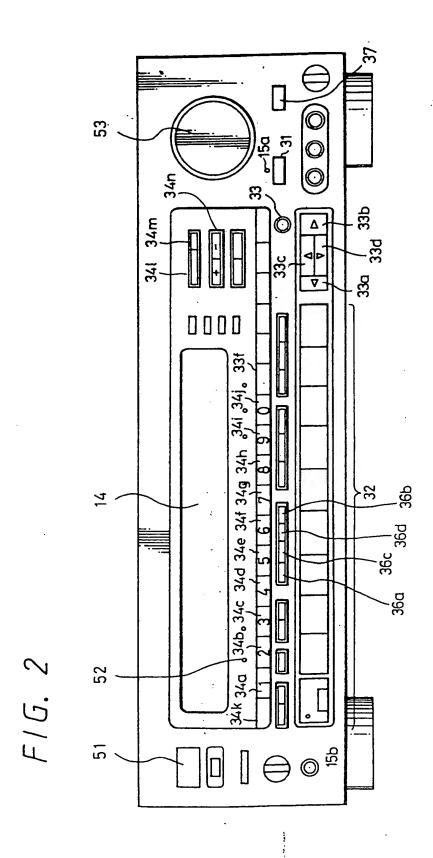
detecting setting of a parameter of the material of a wall source around the sound field: and

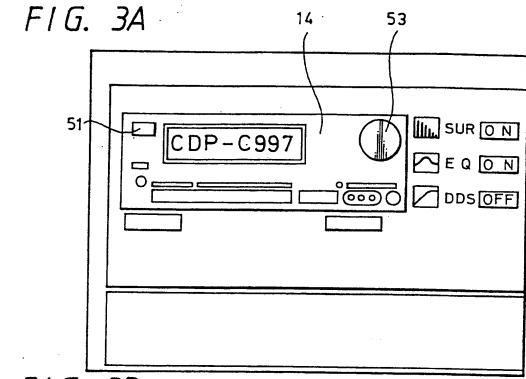
varying the color of a portion corresponding to the wall surface of the image as the parameter is varied.

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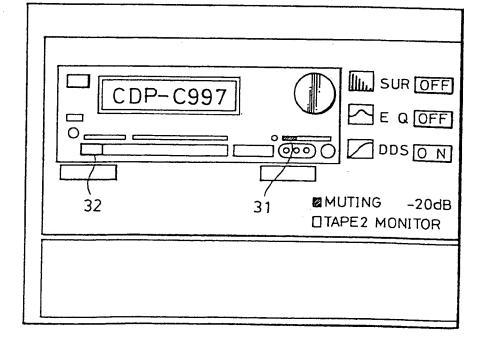
13







F I G. 3B



F1G.4

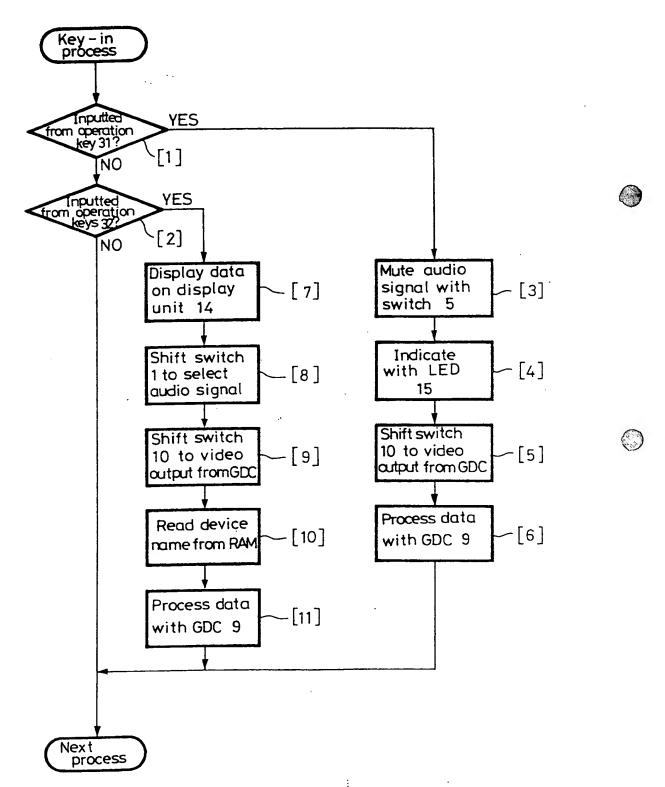
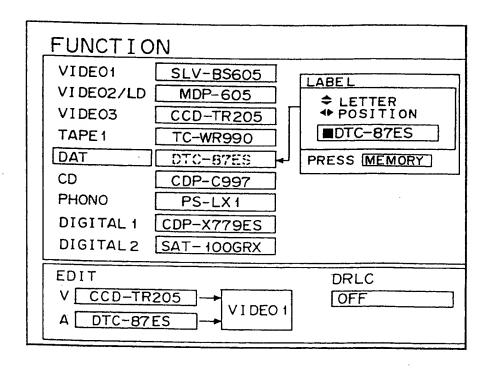


FIG. 5A

FUNCTIO	N	
VIDEO1	SLV-BS605	
VIDEO2/LD	MDP-605	
VI DEO3	CCD-TR205	
TAPE	TC-WR990	
DAT	DTC-87ES	
CD	CDP-C997	
PHONO	PS-LX1	
DIGITAL1	CDP-X779ES	
DIGITAL2	SAT-100GRX	
EDIT V CCD-TR2 A DTC-876	IVIDEO 1	DRLC OFF

F1G. 5B



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FIG.6

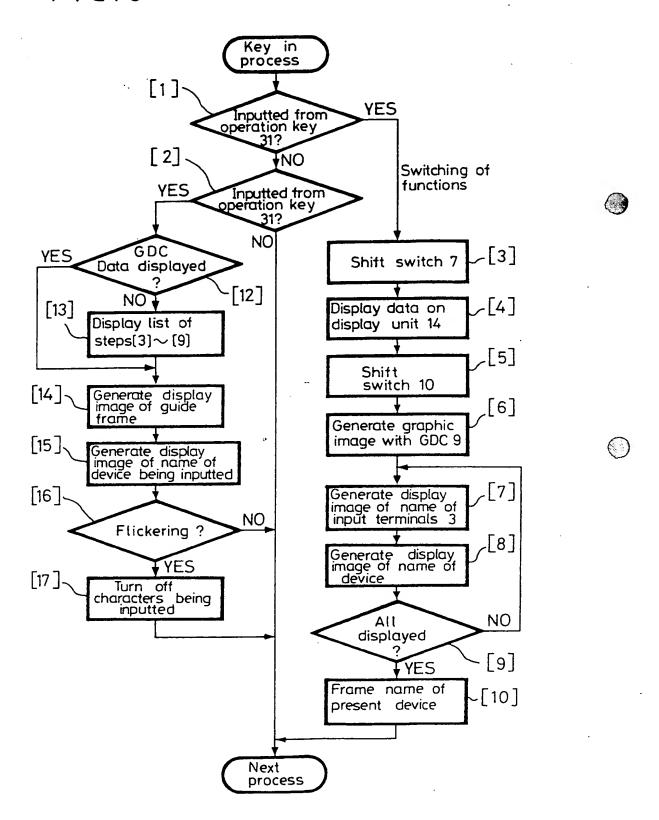


FIG. 7A

TUNER			
CH INIEX A News < FM	FREQ 1 90.00	LINK OMHz P7	LINK ON
CH FREQ L	INK	CH FREQ	LINK
A1 FM 87.50MHz A2 FM 90.00MHz	U4 M	B6 FM108.00M B7 AM 1000k	
A3 FM 90.00MHz	P7 M	B8 AM 990k	
	P5 M P8	B9 AM 990k B0 AM 990k	
	P0	C1 FM 87.50M	lHz
A 7 AM 1000kHz A 8 AM 1000kHz	P1	C2 FM108.00M C3 FM108.00M	
A9 FM 87.50MHz		C4 FM 108.00M	Hz P4 M
	U5	C5 FM 108 . 00M C6 FM 108 . 00M	Hz
B2 FM 90.00MHz B3 FM 90.00MHz	Do	C7 FM 108.00M C8 FM 108.00M	Hz M
B4 AM 990MHz B5 FM 90.00MHz	P0	C9 FM 87.50M C0 FM 87.50M	

FIG. 7B

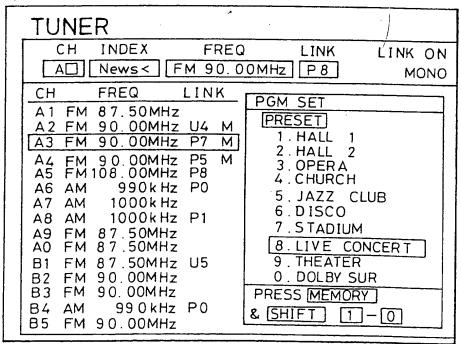


FIG. 8A

TU	NER		
С	H INDEX FREQ	LINK	LIMK ON
A	□ News< FM 90.0	OMHz P7	MONO
СН	INDEX	CH FREQ	LINK
A1	♦ LETTER	B6 FM108.00	
A2	◆POSITION	B7 AM 1000	
A3	News<		kHz PO
A4			lk Hz U9 lk Hz
A5	PRESS MEMORY	B0 AM 99 0 C1 FM 87.50	
A6 A7	& SHIFT 1 - 0	C2 FM108.00	
A8	AM TOUCK HZ PT.	C3 FM 108.00	
A9	FM 87.50MHz		MHz P4 M
A0	FM 87.50MHz	C5 FM 108.00	
B1	FM 87.50 MHz U5	C6 FM 108.00	
B2	FM 90.00MHz	C7 FM 108.00 C8 FM 108.00	MHz M
B3	FM 90.00MHz AM 990kHz P0	C9 FM 87.50	
B5	FM 90.00MHz	CO FM 87.50	

FIG. 8B

	TUN	ER		9			
1	СН	INDEX		FRE	Q	LINK	LINK ON
	A 3	News<	FM	90.	00MHz	P2	MONO
	СН	INDEX	LIN	<u> </u>	СН	INDEX	LINK
	A 1 A 2	ROCK 1 POPS 1	U4	M	B 6 B 7	ABC mama1	
	A 3	News <	P2	M	B8	12345	P0
	A4 A5 A6	News< ABC Papa=	P5 P8 P0	M	B9 B0 C1	12345 12345	U9
	A7 A8 A9 A0	mama 1 mama 1	P1		C2 C3 C4 C5	ABC ABC ABC ABC	U4 P4 M P6 M
	B1 B2	ROCK 1 POPS 1	U5		C6 C7 C8	ABC ABC ABC	М
	B3 B4 B5	News< Papa = JAZZ 1	P0		C 7 C 0	ADC	IVI

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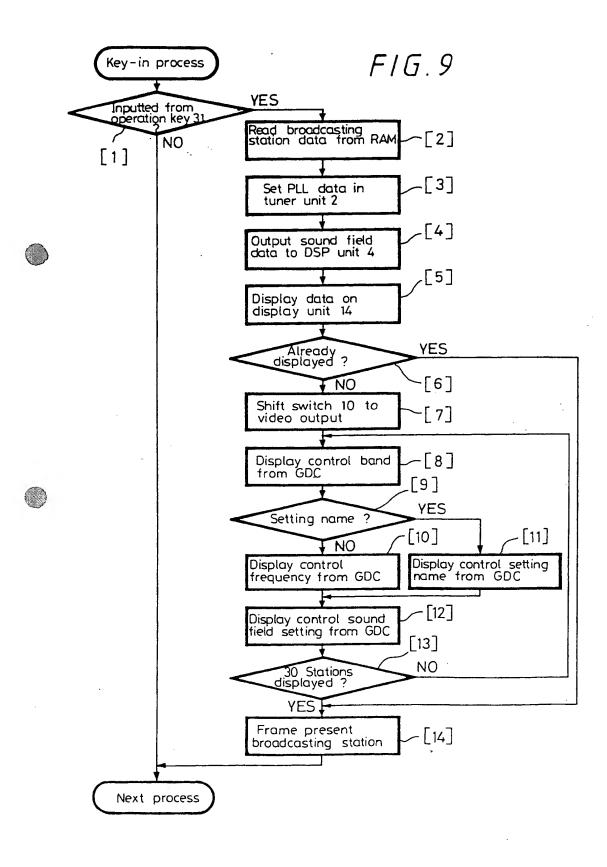
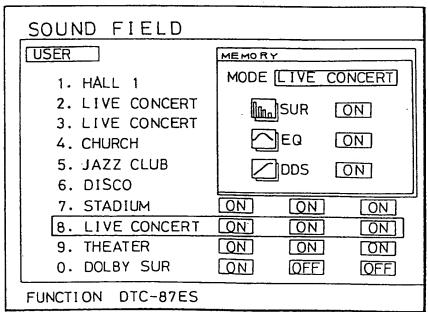


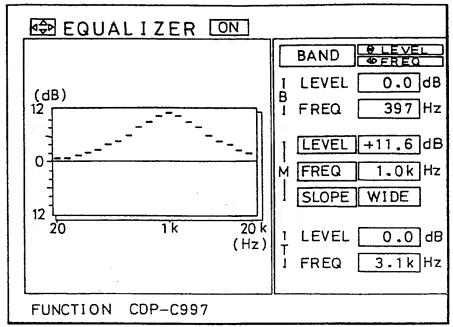
FIG. 10A

SOUND FIELD			
PRESET	SUR	∑ EQ	DDS
1. HALL 1	[ND]	[OFF]	OFF
2. HALL 2	ON	OFF	OFF
3. OPERA	ON	OFF	(OFF)
4. CHURCH	ON	ON	OFF
5. JAZZ CLUB	ON	ON	[ON]
6. DISCO	ON	ON	ON
7. STADIUM	ON	ON	ON
8. LIVE CONCERT	ON	ON	ON
9. THEATER	ON	ON	[NO]
0. DOLBY SUR	ON	OFF	OFF
FUNCTION DTC-87ES			

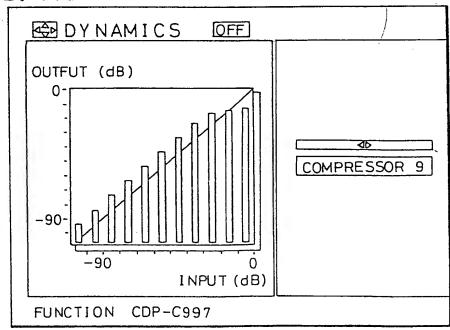
FIG. 10B



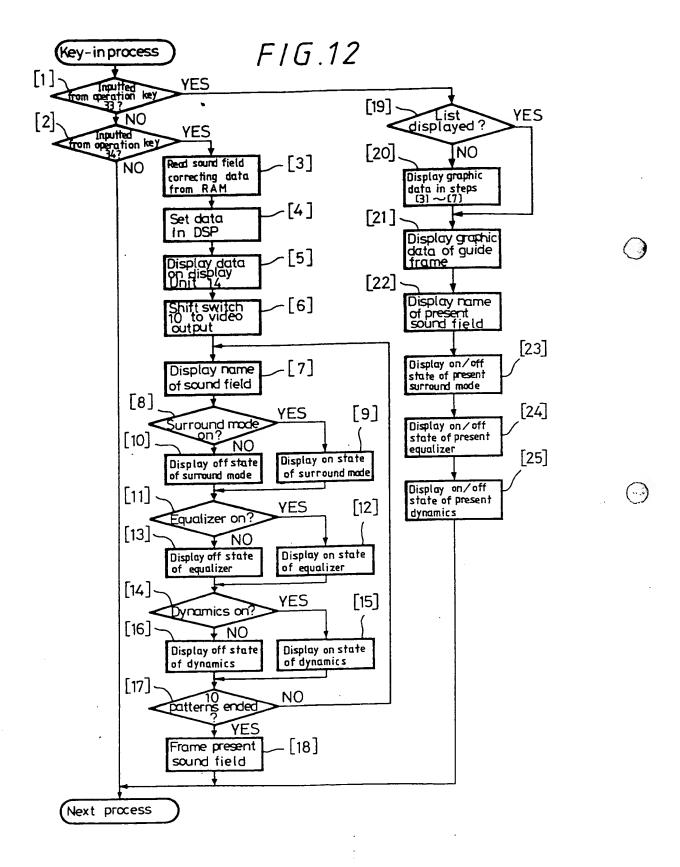
F I G. 11A



F I.G. 11B



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F I G. 13A

SOUND FIELD			
PRESET	SUR	∑ EQ	∠ DDS
1. HALL 1	ON	[OFF]	OFF
2. HALL 2	ON	OFF	OFF
3. OPERA	ON	OFF	OFF
4. CHURCH	ON	ON	OFF
5. JAZZ CLUB	ON	ON	ON
6. DISCO	ON	ON	ON
7. STADIUM	ON	ON	ON
8. LIVE CONCERT	ON	ON	ON
9. THEATER	ON	ON	ON
0. DOLBY SUR	ON	OFF	OFF
FUNCTION DTC-87ES			

F I G. 13A

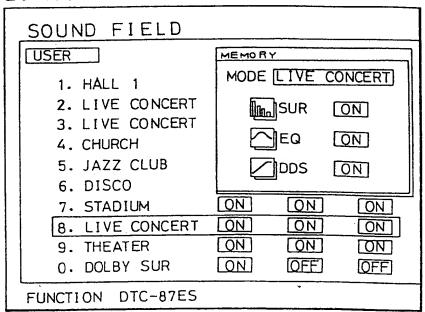
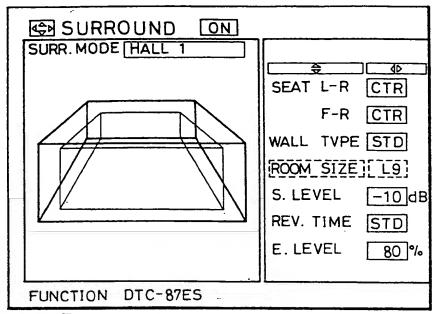
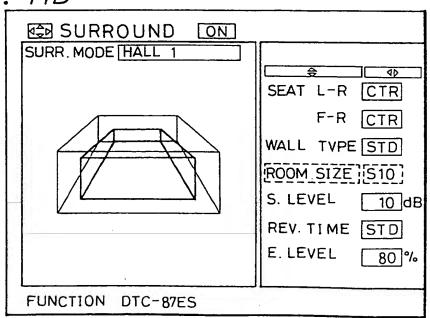


FIG. 14A



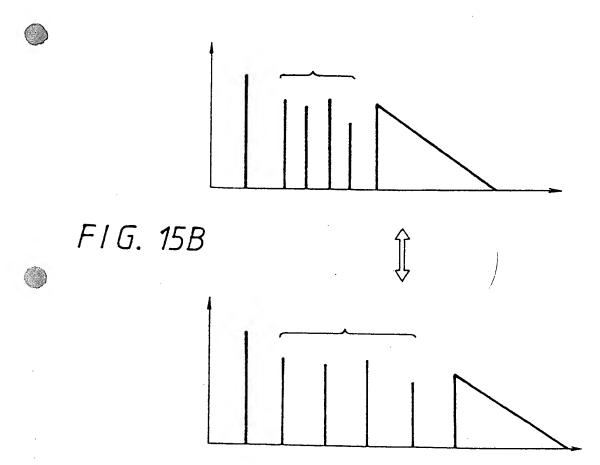
F I G. 14B



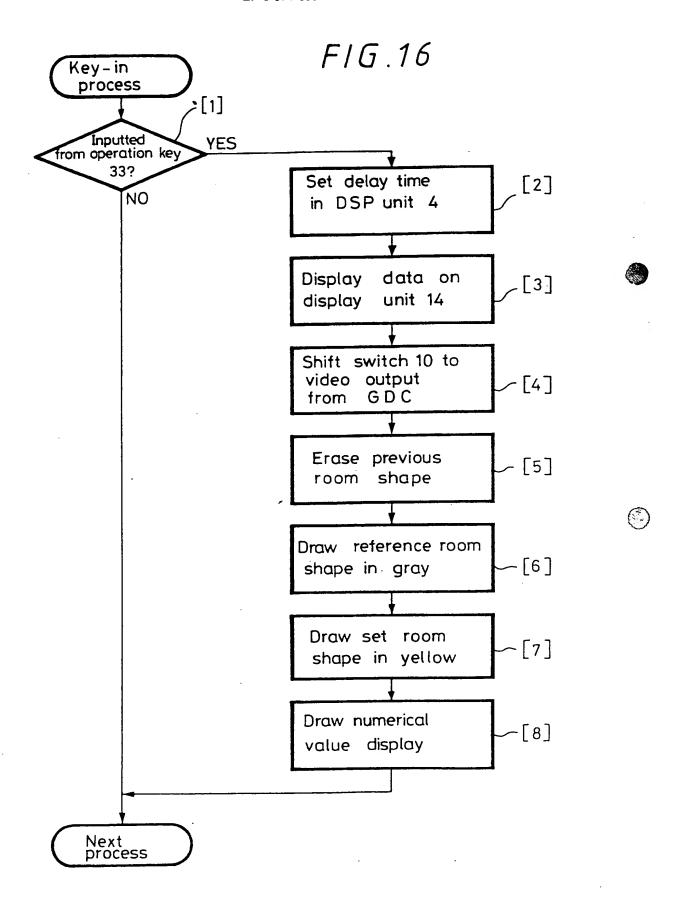
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F I G. 15A



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F I G. 17A

SOUND FIELD			
PRESET	SUR	∑ EQ	DDS
1. HALL 1	ON	OFF	OFF
2. HALL 2	ON	OFF	OFF
3. OPERA	ON	OFF	OFF
4. CHURCH	ON	ON	OFF
5. JAZZ CLUB	ON	ON	ON
6. DISCO	ON	ON	ON
7. STADIUM	ON	ON	ON
8. LIVE CONCERT	ON	ON	[ON]
9. THEATER	ON	ON	ON
0. DOLBY SUR	ON	OFF	OFF
FUNCTION DTC-87ES			·

FI G. 17B

SOUND FIELD	
USER	MEMORY
1. HALL 1 2. LIVE CONCERT 3. LIVE CONCERT 4. CHURCH 5. JAZZ CLUB	MODE LIVE CONCERT SUR ON EQ ON DDS ON
6. DISCO	
7. STADIUM	ON ON ON
8. LIVE CONCERT	LON ON ON
9. THEATER	ON ON ON
0. DOLBY SUR	ON OFF OFF
FUNCTION DTC-87ES	

FIG. 18A

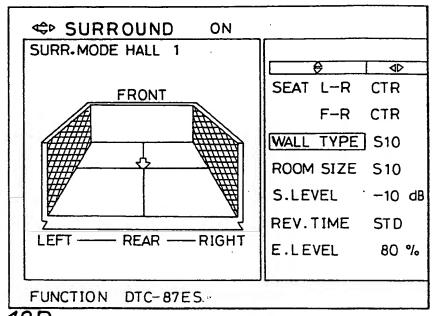
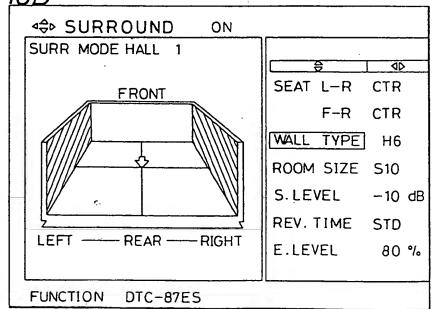


FIG. <u>18B</u>



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F I G. 19

Material	R	G	В
Softer	1	1	0
A	2	2	1
	2 4 5	2 4 5	3
	1	5	4
Standard	2	2 4	2 4
	4	4	4
	5	5	5
	1	1	2
	2	2	3
V	4	4	5
Harder	5	5	6

FIG. 20A

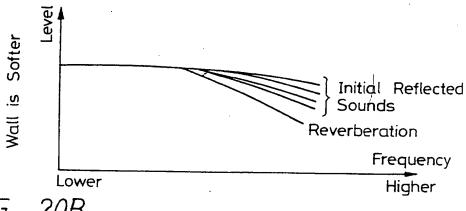
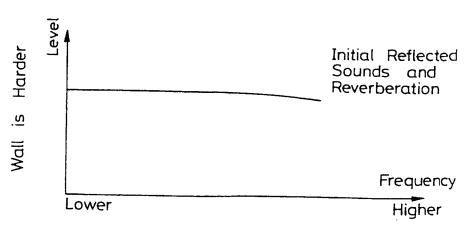


FIG. 20B



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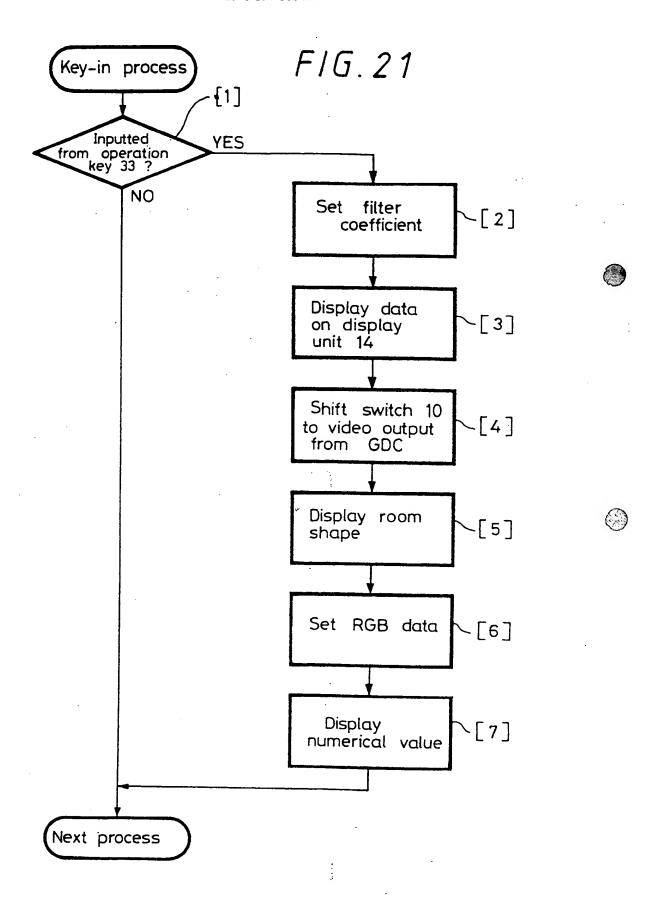


FIG. 22A

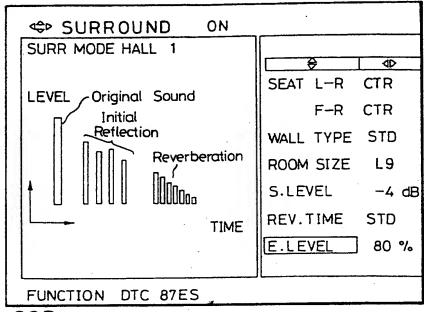


FIG. 22B

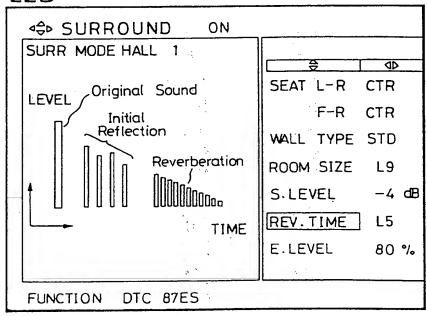


FIG. 23A

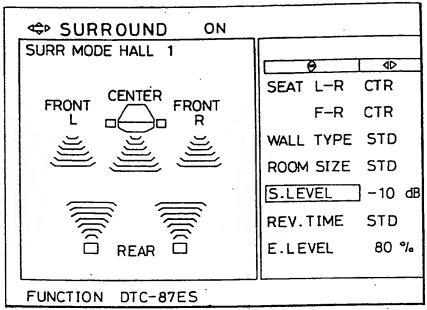
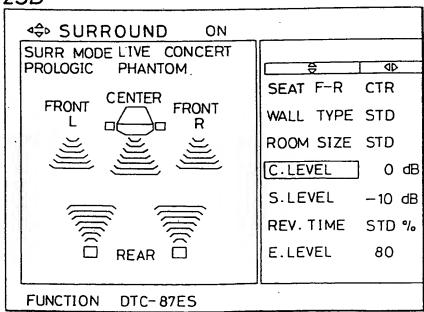


FIG. 23B



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP92/01645 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER Int. Cl⁵ G09G5/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) Int. Cl⁵ G09G5/00 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched 1926 - 1991 Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971 - 1991 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1, 2 JP, U, 60-111173 (Pioneer Electronic Corp.), July 27, 1985 (27. 07. 85), (Family: none) JP, A, 2-266418 (Yokokawa Medical System 1, 2 Co., Ltd.), October 31, 1990 (31. 10. 90), (Family: none) Y JP, A, 60-85688 (Fujitsu Ten Co., Ltd. and another), May 15, 1985 (15. 05. 85), (Family: none) JP, A, 64-18745 (Mazda Motor Corp.), 3-12 Y January 23, 1989 (23. 01. 89), (Family: none) JP, A, 51-123017 (Matsushita Electric Ind. 9-12 Y Co., Ltd.), October 27, 1976 (27. 10. 76), (Family: none) X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filling date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention on considered to involve an inventive step when the document combined with one or more other such documents, such combined such ones to a person skilled in the art document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report March 2, 1993 (02. 03. 93) March 23, 1993 (23. 03. 93) Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer Japanese Patent Office Telephone No.

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)